

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Cpl. Abel entered the military at the age of 19 and served in South Vietnam. As a United States Infantryman, Abel personified bravery and dignity while serving with his fellow Chargers in the 196th Infantry Brigade.

At home in Indiana, family and friends share fond memories of Abel and the character he embodied.

Abel was renowned for his steadfast work ethic. In the months leading up to his initial deployment in October of 1967, Abel spent much of his leave time working for his former employer at the Hayden Jones construction company. His former employer praised the young man for exhibiting a maturity and dedication well beyond his years.

Abel was cherished by his parents, Grace and Carl, and by his sisters, Brenda and Kathleen. He was a true American patriot and it is a privilege to stand here today in celebration of his life, which ended on the battlefield in South Vietnam on January 10th, 1968.

Each year on Veterans' Day, Americans around the world join together to pay tribute to all who served and to the soldiers who gave their last full measure of devotion fighting for the freedoms for which their nation still stands today.

While over four decades have passed since Cpl. Abel laid down his life in service to the United States of America, his noble sacrifice lives on in the memories of family, friends, and the many people whose lives are better for having crossed his path.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,649,024,795,838.78. We've added \$8,022,147,746,925.70 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS IN AMERICA

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding landmark to community health and welfare. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the nation's Community Health Center program. Community Health Centers (CHC) are the family doctor to over 23 million Americans and, as such, are the largest network of primary care providers in the country. The CHC model is distinguished by its comprehensive range of health services, recognizing the particular needs and charac-

teristics of the communities they serve. Community Health Centers are located in medically underserved areas, providing needed care for communities and populations that do not have adequate access to care. Community involvement in CHCs is guaranteed by the requirement that Federal Qualified Health Centers must have governing boards of directors that have patients of the center holding at least 51% of the board seats.

In Massachusetts we are particularly proud because the nation's first community health center opened in December 1965 on Columbia Point in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. Drs. Jack Geiger and Count Gibson of Tufts Medical School founded the Columbia Point Health Center in order to meet the needs of the residents of an isolated public housing project, cut off from the City's health resources. Drs. Geiger and Gibson opened a rural center shortly thereafter in the Delta region of Mississippi. From that start, the community health center program expanded throughout the country. In 1966, the esteemed late Senator Edward M. Kennedy visited the Columbia Point Health Center and immediately understood its mission and its value. He became the greatest champion health centers have ever known. Over the next 50 years, with his leadership and support, the Community Health Center program expanded tremendously.

Mr. Speaker, there are now over 1,270 community health centers providing services at 9,000 sites across the country. CHCs have become the primary source of medical, dental, behavioral health, substance abuse treatment, social services and other community health services for neighborhoods and rural communities that would otherwise be inadequately served. CHCs have also provided employment and career opportunities for thousands of local residents.

Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago it all began here, in Massachusetts. I am proud to rise today to recognize and honor what has become a national model for providing services to our country's underserved areas and urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the efforts of our Community Health Centers.

HONORING WILLIAM S. MORIARTY

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William S. Moriarty from Carter County, Missouri for his exemplary service to not only his community, but also his country.

Bill began serving his country in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. His heroic actions were acknowledged when he received the Silver Star, one of the highest military awards. After a long and successful career in the military that spanned over 22 years, he retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. However, his impact on the military did not end there as Bill has since spent countless hours helping other veterans in our area register for benefits.

Bill has proven to be an invaluable asset to the community through his numerous volunteer efforts. He makes a direct impact on the lives of others by lecturing on the dangers of

drugs at local schools, donating his time at his local senior center, and working with the Meals on Wheels Program. Bill also volunteers through broader forums by serving on a branch of the University of Missouri Extension Council and as part of the Disaster Response Commission for Missouri.

Bill is an exceptional model of a true American who serves others and it is my pleasure to recognize his efforts and accomplishments before the United States House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT J. BEALL

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 16, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and achievements of Dr. Robert Beall, who recently stepped down as president and chief executive officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. In his 35 years with the Foundation, Dr. Beall's efforts to advance cystic fibrosis research and treatment have had an extraordinary impact. When Dr. Beall began work with the Foundation in 1980, the median predicted life expectancy of a patient with cystic fibrosis was 18 years. Today, it is more than 40 years.

In 1976, Dr. Beall was first introduced to the disease when he attended the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's meeting outside of San Diego. There, he was shocked to see how little scientific understanding there was about the disease. In the words of Dr. Beall, "the foundation was so small at that point that the parents were bringing all the food and operating the projector—and I met the parents . . . Kids were dying then at a very young age. After I met the parents, I went back to the National Institutes of Health and said: 'I want to do this.'" Dr. Beall went on to manage the National Institutes of Health's cystic fibrosis program. There, he earned a National Institutes of Health Merit Award for his significant contributions to the field.

In 1980, Dr. Beall joined the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation where he served first as their executive vice president for medical affairs and, beginning in 1994, as their president and CEO. During Dr. Beall's time with the Foundation, medical awards for cystic fibrosis research grew from \$4 million to over \$85 million and supported groundbreaking research including the discovery in 1989 of the genetic defect responsible for the disease. Further, under Dr. Beall's oversight, the Foundation established 114 care centers and cutting-edge research facilities. We also have Dr. Beall to thank for developing and advancing the innovative concept of venture philanthropy. With this practice, Dr. Beall created the Therapeutics Development Program to connect researchers with biotech companies. Thanks to Dr. Beall's work, many children diagnosed with cystic fibrosis have lived into adulthood and it is no longer a pediatric disease. Today, more than 50 percent of patients are over 18 years of age.

As co-chair of the Cystic Fibrosis Caucus, I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Beall and seeing firsthand his passion and commitment to finding a cure for cystic fibrosis. His steadfast leadership and innovative